



**Asian American Advisory Board
Office of Community Advocacy
Board of County Commissioners**



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Phonethip "Tai" Vaz
Chairwoman*

*Luna Adachi
1st Vice Chairwoman*

*Josephine Gordy
2nd Vice Chairwoman*

*Eugene Fu
3rd Vice Chairman*

*Li Gurau
Immediate Past Chairwoman*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joshua Ho

DIRECTORS

Hoda Askari

Vinita Chakravarty

Sadrul Fasihi

Sharon Fine

Jose Keichi Fuentes

Taylor Haas

Ellis Keeter

Samira Khan

Smita Kulkarni

Anjana Mishra

Luke Keisuke Nakano

Subbarayan Pochi

Stephen Lian Thang

Adrianne Aiko Thompson

Mehmet Ulutas

Nick Vicera

Jim Xuejun Yu

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

CONSORTIUM

Preeya Disyanan

**AGENDA, Monthly Board Meeting
6:00 P.M., Tuesday, October 14, 2025**

Stephen P. Clark Center, 18-4 Conference Room, Miami, FL 33128

Ref: AG-10-14-2025

AGENDA ITEMS

PRESENTER

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome** Tai Vaz
- 2. Roll Call.....** Joshua Ho
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance** Tai Vaz
- 4. Approval of September 2025 Minutes** Tai Vaz
- 5. Director's Report.....** Joshua Ho
- 6. Introduction of Guests.....** Tai Vaz
- 7. Special Presentations:** Tai Vaz
 - **Introduction to Ransom Everglades School** – Carla Hill, Admissions Associate
- 8. Public Comments:**
- 9. Current Business.....** Tai Vaz
 - **Updates from Miami-Dade Sheriff Office** – Detective Brandy Conway, Deputy John Leon
 - From Board of County Commissioners
 - 30th Anniversary Gala: County Attorney needs to review the contract first before the BCC Chairman or the Chairman's designee signs the contract. And entire amount of the funds to pay for an event needs to be in place before the contract can be signed.
 - Effective Monday, August 15th, 2025: Board Member Nominees will no longer be required to submit a notarized Oath of Office as a condition of their appointment.
 - Ordinance relating to advice and County Attorney policy recommendations made by County Advisory Boards; creating section 2-11.39.4 of the Code; requiring approval by Board of County Commissioners of advice and policy recommendations made by County Advisory Boards, task forces and citizens' advisory groups prior to implementation thereof.
 - Thursday, October 9th: Ordinance for First Reading: Commissioner Natalie Milian Orbis, District 6, Prime Sponsor, Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins, District 8, Co-sponsor, the revision of the Attendance Requirements and Provide Removal of Absentee Members (Asian American Advisory Board)
 - County Ethics Code would prohibit AAAB board member from seeking a benefit for their own nonprofit or the nonprofits with which there are employed or are a board member. Namely, Section 2-11.1(g) of the County Ethics Code prohibits board members from using their official position to secure special privileges or exemptions for themselves or others

**EDUCATION/CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

*Phonethip "Tai" Vaz
Chair*

*Luna Adachi
Sadrul Fasihi
Eugene Fu
Josephine Gordy
Li Gurau
Anjana Mishra
Stephen Lian Thang
Adrianne Aiko Thompson
Jim Yu
Vinita Chakravarty*

**COMMUNITY
RECOGNITION DINNER
SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Tai Vaz, Luna Adachi
Co-Chairs*

**HEALTH/WELLNESS
SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Sadrul Fasihi
Chair*

**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

*Sharon Fine
Chair*

*Luna Adachi
Smita Kulkarni
Tai Vaz
Preeya Disyanan
Luke Nakano
Taylor Haas*

**INTERNATIONAL TRADE
CONSORTIUM**

Preeya Disyanan

**CULTURAL
ADVANCEMENT**

*Li Gurau
Chair*

*Luna Adachi
Sadrul Fasihi
Josephine Gordy
Subbarayan Pochi
Stephen Lian Thang
Adrianne Aiko Thompson
Tai Vaz
Jim Yu
Luke Nakano
Vinita Chakravarty
Gina Menge*

**ASIAN CULTURE SERIES
SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Phonethip "Tai" Vaz
Chair*

- Asian Culture Series
 - Pakistan: Saturday, November 15th, 2PM -5PM
 - Pinecrest Branch Library, 5835 Southwest 111th Street, Pinecrest
 - South Korea: Wednesday, November 12th, Noon – 5PM
 - Florida International University (FIU), Modesto Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms
 - Japan: Possible Date: Saturday, December 6th, 11AM – 2PM
- Current Situations in Asian American Community
 - Mental Health in Asian American Communities (NAMI Miami-Dade)
 - **Domestic Violence (MDC Domestic Violence Oversight Board)**
 - Substance Abuse in Teenagers (Children’s Trust)

10. New Business (Discussion Items)..... Tai Vaz

- **AAAB Executive Board Elections** – November Board Meeting
 - Executive Officers shall serve for one year (up to two consecutive terms in the same office) or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin upon results of the election. No vote by proxy shall be permitted.
Election shall be by a majority of the votes cast by members present and voting.
 - Current: (Following Officers are **Eligible** for another term)
 - Chairperson –
 - 1st Vice Chairperson – Ms. Luna Adachi
 - 2nd Vice Chairperson – Ms. Josephine Gordy
 - 3rd Vice Chairperson – Dr. Eugene Fu
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11. Committee Reports.....

Committee Chairs

- **AAAB Executive Committee** – Tai Vaz, Chairwoman
- **AAAB Cultural Advancement Committee** – Li Gurau, Chairwoman
 - **Asian Culture Series Sub-committee:** Chair: Tai Vaz
 - October –
 - November – Pakistan, South Korea (FIU)
 - December - Japan
 - Iran, Philippines, Myanmar, Taiwan, Türkiye, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Jamaican-Chinese, Israel

- **AAAB Economic Development Committee – Sharon Fine, Chairwoman**
 - Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE 2025)
 - Greater Ft. Lauderdale / Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale
 - October 22 & 23, 7AM -8PM
 - Free Admission: To Register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fitce-2025-florida-international-trade-cultural-expo-10th-anniversary-tickets-1367911763909?aff=FITCEWebsite>
 - Asian Pavilion
 - Day 1: Opening Ceremony & Ribbon Cutting, 11AM
 - Day 2: Industry Forums
 - 43rd Annual MEDWeek Business Matchmaker Opportunity Conference
 - Kovens Conference Center, 3000 NE 151st Street, North Miami
 - Friday, October 24, 10AM -5PM
 - Free Admission: To Register www.MEDWeekFlorida.org
- **AAAB Education/Civic Engagement Committee - Tai Vaz, Chairwoman**
 - **Health/Wellness Sub-committee:** Chair: Sadrul Fasihi

12. Announcements.....

Tai Vaz

- **October 15, Wednesday:** CG Bethel High School 5th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL SUMMIT; CG Bethel High School, 16150 NE 17 Avenue, NMB; 9:30AM – 1:30PM
- **October 16, Thursday:** University of Miami Lantern Festival Celebration 2025, UMAASA; UM School of Architecture Courtyard; 6PM
- **October 17, Friday:** Kālidāsa and the Idea of Literature- Diwali Celebration at FIU with special guest Dr. Shiv Subramaniam, Assistant Professor of Religion at Emory University; FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Tamiami Hall, Room 121; 6:30PM; Free but Registration required <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/diwali-celebration-2025-tickets-1669288610169>
- **October 18, Saturday:** Japan Fes Florida @ Miami Beach; Indian Beach Park / 4601 Collins Ave, Miami Beach; Noon – 8PM; <https://www.japanfes.com/new-blog/2025/oct-18th-indian-beach-park>
- **October 22, Wednesday:** The Christmas Truce of 1914, Humanity's Light in the Darkest of Times (FIU & Florida Grand Opera); FIU Steven J Green School of International and Public Affairs, FIU SIPA II, Room 102; 10AM – Noon; Free Event, Registration Required <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-christmas-truce-of-1914-tickets-1564302353449?aff=oddtcreator>
- **October 22, Wednesday:** India-US Chamber of Commerce South Florida - 2025-2026 Business Outlook: Trade, Technology, and Market Impacts on Indian American Success; Founders Shooting Club, 5320 Powerline Road, Suite 120; 6PM -7:30PM; \$10 <https://iuccsfl.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=af84d65ff65ac7f3810e3f2d8&id=be208d20c7&e=070b6bc084>
- **October 22 & 23, Wednesday & Thursday:** Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE 2025); Greater Ft. Lauderdale / Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale; 7AM -8PM; To Register [FITCE 2025](#)
- **October 24, Friday:** Florida's 43rd Annual MEDWeek Business Matchmaker Opportunity Conference - M. Gill & Associates, Inc.; Kovens Conference Center, 3000 Northeast 151st Street, North Miami; 10AM -5PM; Free but Registration required [Florida's 43rd Annual MEDWeek Business Matchmaker Opportunity Conference Tickets, Fri, Oct 24, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)
- **October 24, Friday:** Elevate Small Business Conference with Commissioner Eileen Higgins, District 5; Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus; All Day; Free Event but Registration Required www.elevatesmall.biz
- **October 24, Friday:** NAMI Miami-Dade Reel Minds - Connecting Mental Health Awareness with the Arts!; Screening of the full-length film Anxiety Club; Area Stage – 5701 Sunset Dr Suite 286, South Miami; 7PM; Tickets <https://secure.everyaction.com/O2HeMu71CE2vU6bItxeobQ2>
- **October 25, Saturday:** NAMI Miami-Dade Reel Minds - Connecting Mental Health Awareness with the Arts!; Little Haiti Cultural Complex, 212 NE 59th Terrace, Miami; 1PM – 6:30PM; Tickets Required <https://secure.everyaction.com/O2HeMu71CE2vU6bItxeobQ2>
- **October 25, Saturday:** H.E.L.P. Health and Education Love Project 4th Annual Banquet and Awards Night; Sunset Lakes Community Center 2801 SW 186th Ave., Miramar; 7PM -11PM; \$60pp; Tickets 305-753-8791
- **November 2, Sunday:** Free Japanese Festival; Ichimura Miami-Japan Garden, 1101 MacArthur Causeway, Watson Island, Miami; 10:30AM -4PM; Free Admission with Additional Purchases; <https://friendsofjapanesegarden.com/>
- **November 6, Thursday:** Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau Annual Meeting - the tourism industry's largest gathering of Miami-Dade partners and community stakeholders; Coastal Convention Center at Fontainebleau Miami Beach; 4441 Collins Avenue; Tickets <https://us.eventsforce.net/greatermiami/34/register>
- **November 7, Friday:** AREAA Greater Miami 2025 BOD Installation Ceremony: Madam President Mariesen Sartori; Tower Club 26th Floor; Tickets Required
- **November 12, Wednesday:** AAAB Asian Culture Series – South Korea; Florida International University (FIU), Modesto Maidique Campus, Graham Center Ballrooms; Noon – 5PM
- **November 15, Saturday:** AAAB Asian Culture Series – Pakistan; Pinecrest Branch Library, 5835 Southwest 111th Street, Pinecrest; 2PM – 5PM
- **November 15, Saturday:** Gummakonda Reddy Foundation 10th Annual Fundraising Brunch; Jacaranda Ballroom & Patio, 9200 W. Broward Blvd. Plantation; \$225pp; RSVP 407-720-5865 (Rohith or Andy)
- **Sundays:** ACE Talk Radio Show with Winnie Tang, Josephine Gordy & Joshua Ho on WAVS 1170AM & 107.9 FM, Sunday evening from 9PM – 10PM www.ACE-Talk.com

13. Adjournment

Tai Vaz

[Next AAAB General Board Meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2025, 6:00 PM @ SPCC 18-3](#)